

2/16/2022

From last class

Ex Subtract the rational expressions

$$\frac{3}{2x^2+x} - \frac{2x}{6x+3}$$

These are unlike denominators  
so we should find the

LCD (least common denominator)

1) Factor the denominators:

$$2x^2+x : x(2x+1)$$

$$6x+3 : 3(2x+1)$$

2) Create the LCD:

$$3x(2x+1)$$

Note: For the  
LCD use all  
the distinct factors  
with their highest power.



Beware - the canceling!

$$\frac{\cancel{3}+1}{\cancel{9} \cdot 3} = \frac{1+1}{3} = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$\frac{3+1}{9} = \frac{4}{9} \quad \frac{2}{9}$$

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Complex Fractions:

Ex  $\frac{\frac{2}{3}}{\frac{4}{5}}$



A complex fraction has fractions as numerator and/or denominator

There are 2 methods for tackling this simplification

Method 1:  $\frac{2}{3} \div \frac{4}{5} = \frac{2}{3} \times \frac{5}{4} = \frac{5}{6}$

"Keep Change FLIP!"

Method 2: Find the LCD of the denominators and multiply top + bottom by it

$\frac{2}{3} \div \frac{4}{5}$  Find the LCD of 3 + 5

LCD = 15

Now use it!  $\left(\frac{2}{3}\right) \cdot \frac{5}{1} = \frac{10}{12}$

$\left(\frac{4}{5}\right) \cdot \frac{3}{1} = \frac{12}{6}$

Challenge: Simplify  $\frac{\left(\frac{x+4}{y}\right) \cdot \frac{4}{1}}{\left(\frac{x}{y} + 2\right) \cdot \frac{4}{1}}$

$$\frac{\left(\frac{x+1}{y}\right)^4}{\left(\frac{x}{y}\right)^4 + (2)^4} = \frac{x+1}{x+2}$$

$\infty = \infty = 3$   
 $\infty = \infty$   
 Beware!  
 Don't  
 cancel  
 the x!

$$\frac{\cancel{5}+1}{\cancel{5}+16}$$

Now we can solve Rational  
Equations

Ex solve  $\frac{x}{2} + \frac{8}{3} = \frac{1}{6}$

Method 1 → Make all  
 denominators the same

LCD:  $\begin{matrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{matrix}$     ① LCD: 6  
 $6 = 2 \cdot 3$

(2) Rewrite all fractions so they have denominator 6

$$\frac{x}{2} \stackrel{\times 3}{=} \frac{3x}{6} \quad (3) \quad \frac{3x}{6} + \frac{16}{6} = \frac{1}{6}$$

$$\frac{8}{3} \stackrel{\times 2}{=} \frac{16}{6}$$

$$\frac{1}{6} = \frac{1}{6}$$

~~$$\frac{3x+16}{6} = \frac{1}{6}$$~~

~~$$6(3x+16) = 1 \cdot 6$$~~

$$\begin{array}{r} 3x+16 = 1 \\ -16 \quad -16 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\frac{3x}{3} = \frac{-15}{3}$$

$$\boxed{x = -5}$$

Check:  $\frac{x}{2} + \frac{8}{3} = \frac{1}{6}$

$$\frac{-5}{2} + \frac{8}{3} \stackrel{2}{=} \frac{1}{6} \Rightarrow \frac{-15}{6} + \frac{16}{6} \checkmark = \frac{1}{6}$$

To solve rational equations  
(Fractional) :

- ① Find the LCD of all denominators.
- ② Multiply both sides by LCD.
- ③ Solve